

We claim:

1. A cover assembly for a wastewater lift station, comprising:
 - a cover having first and second opposing major surfaces and at least one outer side surface, the cover having a lift station access opening defined therein and extending through the major surfaces; and
 - a preformed channel defined in the cover and extending from an inner end at the first major surface to an outer end at the at least one outer side surface, the channel having at least one vent opening extending from the channel to the second major surface.
- 10 2. The cover assembly of claim 1, further comprising an upright member through which a cable from the channel can be routed, the upright member having a lower end positionable in alignment with the outer end of the channel and an opposite upper end positionable at a level above the second major surface of the cover.
- 15 3. The cover assembly of claim 2, wherein the upright member has an interior cable routing area through which the cable can be routed.
4. The cover assembly of claim 3, wherein the upright member has a locking access portion that can be unlocked to provide access to the cable routing area.
- 20 5. The cover assembly of claim 2, further comprising an operator access box adapted for mounting to an upper end of the upright member, the operator access box housing a connector for connecting the cable to a source of AC power.
- 25 6. The cover assembly of claim 5, wherein the operator access box is mounted at least 18 inches above ground level.

7. A cover assembly for a wastewater lift station, comprising:
a cover having opposing major surfaces and at least one outer side surface,
the cover having a lift station access opening defined therein and extending through the
major surfaces; and

5 a channel defined in the cover and extending from an inner end that opens to
an interior of the lift station to an outer end adjacent the outer side surface that opens to an
exterior of the lift station, the channel providing for venting of gases through openings in a
grate in one of the major surfaces of the cover.

10 8. The cover assembly of claim 7, wherein the grate has an outer end
positioned adjacent the outer side surface of the cover.

9. The cover assembly of claim 8, further comprising an upright member
through which one or more cables from the channel can be routed, the upright member
15 having a lower end positionable in alignment with the outer end of the channel and over the
outer end of the grate, the upright member having an access door that can be opened to
allow the grate to be removed.

10. The cover assembly of claim 8, wherein the grate has an inner end
20 opposite the outer end, and wherein the inner end is engageable with a groove formed in the
adjacent one of the major surfaces to secure the grate.

11. The cover assembly of claim 7, wherein the inner end of the channel
is positioned adjacent the lift station access opening.

25 12. A cable routing construction for a wastewater lift station, the
construction comprising:

30 a channel extending generally laterally through an upper region of the lift
station and at least partially comprising a preformed insert, the channel having an inner end
opening to an interior of the lift station and an outer end opening to an exterior of the lift

station, the channel defining a passage dimensioned to receive a cable and allowing gases to be vented from the interior.

13. The construction of claim 12, wherein the channel has a top portion
5 with vent openings extending from the passage to the exterior of the lift station.

14. The construction of claim 12, wherein the channel is preformed in a top section of the lift station.

10 15. The construction of claim 14, wherein the inner end of the channel that opens to the interior of the lift station is positioned at the lower surface of the top section, the outer end of the channel that opens to the exterior of the lift station is positioned at an outer side surface of the top section, and the channel extends from the inner end, bends toward the outer side surface and extends generally laterally to the outer end.

15 16. The construction of claim 12, wherein the channel is dimensioned to allow movement through the channel of the cable and a connector fitted to an end of the cable.

20 17. A method of configuring electrical connections for a wastewater lift station, comprising:

providing an electrically-powered apparatus that is positioned within the wastewater lift station at a level below ground level;

25 providing at least one electrical cable connected at a first end to the apparatus, the cable having a second end fitted with a quick-disconnect coupling; passing the second end of the cable through a cable routing passage to a terminal location, the terminal location being positioned outside the wastewater lift station and at a level spaced above ground level and having a mating quick-disconnect coupling; and

30 connecting the quick disconnect coupling to a mating quick disconnect coupling connector.